Church of God

# Evangel

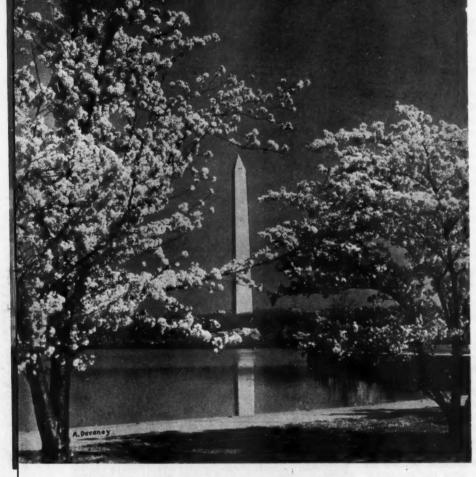
If we live in the Spirit, let us also walk in the Spirit.

April 1, 1957

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People
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UPWARD



We Meet a Converted Jailer

# **April**

By Avis Swiger

PRIL, THE FOURTH MONTH of our calendar. received its name from the Roman name Aprilis which meant "to open." The month is well-named, for it is the opening month of spring. During this month, in the northern hemisphere, nature really opens up and more changes are made than during any other thirty-day period. The buds on trees and bushes swell and open; the brown grass of the winter months becomes green, and many flowers open. In fact, a new and beautiful green world opens up to us in the changing world of April.

There are many sudden changes of weather concealed behind the folds of April's gleaming garments. A heavy snowfall may follow a warm sunny day. but it cannot last; it will quickly melt away. A sudden shower may dampen the picnic ardor, but a few minutes later the welcome sunshine will devour all evidence of it. One of the loveliest sayings of the month is "April showers make May flowers."

There are several important days in April, the first one being "April Fools' Day." This has been a time for practical jokes since the sixteenth century. or perhaps earlier. One may become an "April fool" by being caught in a joke in the United States, England, France, India, and other places.

Another important time of the month is Arbor Day. This is set aside as a time to plant trees, and the date varies in different sections according to the best planting time. It is not a holiday.

Easter usually comes in the month of April, bringing with it Palm Sunday, Good Friday, and so forth.

The fact that April is the opening month for nature gives us the thought that it should also be the ideal time to open up a campaign for God in our churches. Spring days naturally bring new vigor to the mind and body which should be harnessed for good.

Nearly all of our wars, as a nation, have begun in April; viz., the Revolutionary War, Mexican War, Civil War, and the United States entrance into World War I. The reason seems to be that it is an advantageous time, because the weather during the succeeding months would be less likely to hinder the progress of the armies. The same is true about the religious warfare. All of us should make the best possible use of the invigorating days of April to launch a real battle against Satan, our constant enemy. We are not suggesting that the church has been sleeping during the winter months, but we are advocating a renewal of effort with the "opening" of wonderful days.

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# CHURCH OF GOD

America's Oldest Pentecostal Publication CHARLES W. CONN, Editor

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#### DECLARATION OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE

WE BELIEVE

I. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible. 2. In one God et ally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, a floly Ghost. 3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten S of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the Virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the fight hand of the Father as the Intercessor. 4. That all he inned and come short of the glory of God, and that reperence is commanded of God for all and necessary for forginess of sins. 5. That justification, regeneration, and the noirth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ. 6. anctification subsequent to the new birth, through fain the blood of Christ: through the Word, and by the Holyest of the Holy Ghost. 7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for Jecopie. 8. In the baptism of the Holy Ghost subsequent to dean heart. 9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the Holy Ghost. 10. In water baptism by immotion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name he Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. 11. Divinealing is provided for all in the atonement. 12. In the Lor supper and washing of the saints' feet. 13. In the premillent second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dand to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second condition of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. 11. In the bot resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal prishment for the wicked.

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# A Peculiar People

By J. H. Walker, Jr.

OD'S PEOPLE ARE A peculiar people. By peculiar we mean one that is not ordinary, but is unusual, odd, strange, uncommon, or distinguished in nature and character from others.

There are various ways that a person can be peculiar. Unfortunately, holiness people have usually given a shallow, superficial interpretation to this text, and consequently have missed the real depth of its meaning. Often ministers have stressed a peculiarity of dress, claiming that this added to the holiness of a person. However, if dress is the criterion by which one judges holiness, then we have been far surpassed by others, such as the Amish or Roman Catholics.

One morning while standing on the balcony of the hotel in Cayes, Haiti, I saw a peculiar sight. A horse was walking down the street with something or someone on its back. My interest was aroused and I placed myself in a better location to satisfy my curiosity. Soon I discovered that I was looking at a nun, dressed in all of her paraphernalia, riding a horse down the middle of the main street. It is true that the Roman priests and nuns wear a religious garb which readily brings recognition to their religious beliefs, and yet we will be quick to point out that this garb has little bearing on their degree of holiness. Thus, one can see that the error is in stressing the definition of peculiar in its reference to dress or custom, instead of distinguishing its reference to one's nature or character.

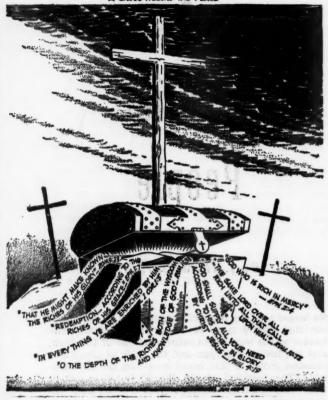
God's people are a peculiar people. Their peculiarity is marked by their having a different nature or character than those who are not God's people. By nature we mean the qualities which they acquire at birth. God's people have a born-again experience, and from that moment onward their nature is changed.

No longer are they primarily striving for selfish gains, but their desire is to be of service to others. The nature of the world is to satisfy the lust of the flesh, and the lust of the eyes, and the pride of life. Their common motto is "Let every man look out for himself." The "survival of the fittest" is uppermost in their consciousness. Material gain and security are paramount.

In contrast, the Christian's nature is to love. By love I mean the identifying of one's self with those with whom he associates. When they have a problem, immediately he has the feeling that it is his problem, also. When they are in need, he shares what he has. When they attain some desired goal, instead of being jealous, he recognizes their attainment and is happy for them. He has a deep-seated desire to express his love in outward acts of kindness. In the little things he is attentive. He cares enough to keep himself informed, and consequently has little need for the excuse, "I did not know." His pleasure is in the giving of himself.

It is peculiar that when one seeks to save his life for himself he loses it, and the only way to gain his life is to give it. The world cannot understand this. It is unknown to their nature and one who is motivated by such is quickly recognized as being a peculiar person. Therefore, let us "show forth the praises of him who has called us" by our nature, by our inward factors of motivation, by our love, by our giving of ourselves, our time, our possessions, our thoughts, our deeds. Let love, the true nature of the Christian, shine forth. Let us love the Lord our God with all of our heart, mind, soul, and strength and our neighbor as ourselves. Be peculiar. Exemplify love.

A CROSS MARKS THE PLACE



Salvation by Repentance

By W. W. Snuffer

1 Samuel 7:3, 4, "And Samuel spake unto all the house of Israel, saying, If you do return unto the Lord with all your hearts, then put away the strange gods and Ashtaroth from among you, and prepare your hearts unto the Lord, and serve him only: and he will deliver you out of the hands of the Philistines. Then the children of Israel did put away Baalim and Ashtaroth, and served the Lord only."

ALVATION IS DELIVERANCE from sin and the consequence of sin. Sin is transgression of the laws of God. When a sinner or backslider comes to God and receives salvation, he is not only saved from his sins, but also from that to which sin leads, in the end. In order for a person to enjoy the experience of salvation, there are some requirements from God that man must meet. God requires men everywhere to repent.

Repentance Is God's Command to the Sinner and by It, the Gulf Is Bridged Between Him and God

Samuel told the people in the text, "If ye do return unto the Lord." This proves that they were away from God. This had been brought about by sin. Sin leads men in the opposite direction from God. Sinner friend or backslider, each time that you sin, you are lengthening the distance between you and your God. When a man repents, he changes his course by which he has been traveling away from God and he comes to God. The Bible records that the Wise Men, after worshiping the Christ Child, returned another way. Repentance is not merely a bodily act; it is a turning of the heart as well: "If ye do return unto the Lord with all your hearts."

Turning to God is the beginning of a new life, which daily brings one closer to God. Paul told the Athenians on Mars' hill, in Acts 17:27, "That they should seek the Lord, if haply they might feel after him, and find him, though he be not far from every one of us." Yet God was nearer to Paul then He was to any other man on Mars' hill, because Paul was much more like God in character than they were. Paul had once been far from the God whom he now served, and the Saviour for which he was now ready to die, but he had diminished that distance by repentance, and by having his life changed by Jesus of Nazareth.

The people to whom Samuel was preaching here in the text were at such a distance from God that they had become partakers of the debasing idolatry of the Canaanites, and the worship of Baal. As the road of sin and iniquity is downhill, sinner friend, each step that you take not only leads you farther and farther from God, but also the speed by which you are traveling is increasing as you gather momentum. Even so, as the Prophet Isaiah said in Isaiah 59:1, 2, "Behold, the Lord's hand is not shortened,

that it cannot save; neither his ear heavy, that it cannot hear: but your iniquities have separated between you and your God, and your sins have hid his face from you, that he will not hear."

#### Repentance Comes From a Sense of Need

Geographically speaking, men move from one locality to another many times because there arises a sense of need. Perhaps a man becomes dissatisfied with the things he meets in the road he travels, and the environment in which he lives; this causes him to move to another job or another section of the country. This can also be true of a man's soul. When a person has been led from one place of revelry in sin to another until his soul becomes so burdened with the load of sin that it seems he cannot live any longer under the load, then there arises that sense of the need of a Saviour who has power to forgive sin and roll away burdens.

This was true of the prodigal son, in Luke 15:17-19, "And when he came to himself, he said, How many hired servants of my father's have bread enough and to spare, and I perish with hunger! I will arise and go to my father, and will say unto him, Father, I have sinned against heaven, and before thee, and am no more worthy to be called thy son: make me as one of thy hired servants." Remembering the goodness of his father helped him to repent. Paul, writing to the Romans, said, "The goodness of God leadeth thee to repentance."

I SRAEL HAD NOW BEGUN to feel that they wanted something as a nation which Baal and Ashtaroth could not give. "They lamented after the Lord." As a child would mourn after his parents, when being taken from their sight, so Israel lamented or mourned after the Lord. Such a feeling of want is a sign of a reawakening conscience. The very fact that a person can feel the convicting power of God, leads to a hope that he can be saved. He who feels the sense of spiritual need is not morally dead, his conscience may have been lying dormant for a long time, but its outcry is a sure sign that it is not dead; this is often the first step to true repentance.

The words of a godly man or woman at a time which God is dealing with the unsaved, ofttimes help lead that person to repentance. The words of Peter on the Day of Pentecost helped his hearers to repentance. Acts 2:37, 38, "Now when they heard this, they were pricked in their heart, and said unto Peter and the rest of the apostles, Men and brethren, what shall we do? Then Peter said unto them, Repent, and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost." Samuel's words to Israel encouraged and stimulated their desire to return to God.

#### After Repentance Comes Liberty

The condition under which the Israelite people were to receive their liberty from the bondage of the Phil-

#### PERMEATING PERSONALITY



istines was, "If ye do return unto the Lord . . ., he will deliver you out of the hands of the Philistines." There could be no enjoyment of spiritual blessings until there was a returning to God, and a forsaking of the heathen gods. God not only requires men to repent, but He also expects men to forsake the things that caused him to have to repent. Moses told the people in his day that if they let remain in their midst the sins of the Canaanite nations, it would hinder their liberty in the Lord and impede their progress in the good land. "It shall come to pass, that those which ye let remain of them shall be pricks in your eyes, and thorns in your sides, and shall vex you in the land wherein ye dwell," Numbers 33:55.

When Jesus raised Lazarus from the dead, he came forth bound with grave clothes, but Jesus told the people that were standing near to loose him and let him go. Jesus not only wants us to have life, but also wants His people to enjoy the liberty of that new life He gives. When a man truly repents of his sins, he becomes a new creature in Christ. Old desires and sins are passed away, and all things are become new.

URING THE DARK days of World War II. many countries were hard put to carry on their economies. The best brains in the world worked on finding ways and means to produce substitutes for many raw materials that were in short supply because of the sea lanes' being endangered by the lurking submarines of the enemies.

Chemistry had made such advances that it was possible to determine that matter was made up of various combinations of different elements. It was already known that water comprised two atoms of hydrogen and one atom of oxygen. One atom of sodium and one atom of chlorine would make one molecule of table salt. Twelve atoms of carbon, twenty-two atoms of hydrogen and eleven atoms of oxygen would make one molecule of sugar. Synthetic rubber was produced and many other much-needed commodities. By chemical analysis it was possible to find out of what something was made and then, by simply gathering together these component parts from various sources and "assembling" them, a synthetic article could be produced.

This may sound very complicated, but in reality it is not. It is nothing more than the equivalent of making a cake as our grandmothers used to do it, but instead of working with flour, baking powder, sugar, eggs, milk, water, and flavoring, other elements were used. It could well be called a recipe. Nowadays, of course, the easiest way to make a cake is to go to the supermarket, get a packet of cake mix, bring it home, add eggs and water or milk, mix it up, put it in the oven, and out comes a beautiful cake.

This synthetic way of living has invaded the realm of religion. To many persons, religion is nothing more or less than a combination of moral ingredients that produce a good-living person. However, religion in its life-giving form is a Person. That Person is Christ. If we do not have Christ, we do not have Bible religion no matter how many of the ingredients we may have. Bible religion begins and ends in a Person. We must be able to say with the Apostle Paul, "I live, yet not I, but Christ liveth in me." Bible religion is not the adding up of Christian virtues. It is Christ.

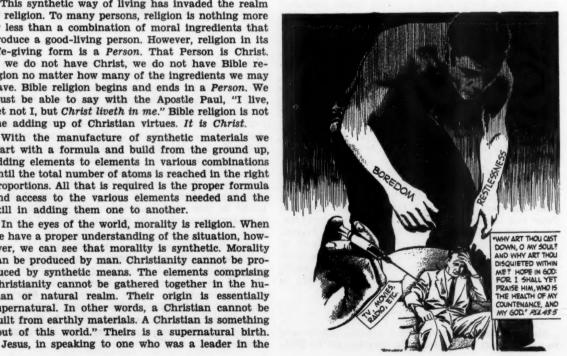
With the manufacture of synthetic materials we start with a formula and build from the ground up, adding elements to elements in various combinations until the total number of atoms is reached in the right proportions. All that is required is the proper formula and access to the various elements needed and the skill in adding them one to another.

In the eyes of the world, morality is religion. When we have a proper understanding of the situation, however, we can see that morality is synthetic. Morality can be produced by man. Christianity cannot be produced by synthetic means. The elements comprising Christianity cannot be gathered together in the human or natural realm. Their origin is essentially supernatural. In other words, a Christian cannot be built from earthly materials. A Christian is something "out of this world." Theirs is a supernatural birth.

religion of His day, said, "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God." This operation is a cancelling out of one combination of atoms, so to speak, and replacing them with an entirely new combination. The "natural" man is cancelled out and is replaced by the "new" man.

When Jesus told Nicodemus that he must be "born again," the word that was used by the Apostle John in the Greek language in which this Gospel was written was anothen. This means "born from above." Becoming a Christian, then, is not a matter of adding together a number of moral ingredients, but rather, it is the receiving of a new kind of life from a completely new source. This life is Christ.

This life is offered to all of mankind through the preaching of the gospel. In order for this life to begin, it is necessary for you to take a definite attitude toward your previous manner of living. This attitude is known in the Bible as repentance. Before the new life can begin, you must desire to be liberated from the entanglement of sin. You must realize that sin is foreign to the new life that you need. You must desire a new relationship with God your Creator. Sin "atoms" must be thrown out and replaced by the grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, who wants to save you from the burden, guilt, and penalty of sin. You must bring your will into operation. In other words, when you line up your will with the will of God, things will begin to happen. The Holy Spirit will work in the matter and you will have your first taste of supernatural power.



The throwing out of the sin "atoms" is accomplished by your confessing to God your past sin. You call upon Him to forgive you your sins for Christ's sake and He does it, and immediately you believe His written Word: "If we confess our sins, he is faithful and just to forgive us our sins, and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness." You will feel the power of God release you from the weight of sin on your heart. The throwing out of the "sin atoms," then, is accomplished by confession of past sin, and the place of expulsion is sealed off by repentance fortified by the power of the Lord Jesus Christ. The blood which Jesus shed on the cross of Calvary has a peculiar power to bring release from the condemnation of a guilty conscience.

Christ will then manifest His divine presence in your life and the graces and virtues of the Christ-life will abound. Love, joy, peace, longsuffering, gentleness, goodness, faith, meekness, and temperance will be your everyday experience. You will love everybody and desire that they share this new-found joy which you have. You will have a deep-settled peace in your heart because you are at one with God. Longsuffering or patience and goodness will replace bad temper and irritability. Faith will replace fear. Meekness will replace the "I'll show them" attitude. Temperance will bring you to an even keel. You will be a new person.

It is here that we should stop to think a little. We stop to sound a note of warning. How is it that a person, having once had this glorious experience of being "born from above," can ever change? Christ told His disciples in John 15: "I am the true vine, and my

THIS
SYNTHETIC
AGE

By Eric H. Wilson

Father is the husbandman. Every branch in me that beareth not fruit he taketh away: and every branch that beareth fruit, he purgeth it, that it may bring forth more fruit . . Abide in me, and I in you. As the branch cannot bear fruit of itself, except it abide in the vine; no more can ye, except ye abide in me. . . . If a man abide not in me, he is cast forth as a branch, and is withered. . . ."

The maintenance of the Christ-life is, as we can clearly see from the above, contingent upon abiding. Without this constant abiding there is a breakdown in the nature of the new spiritual substance that permits the re-entrance of "sin atoms," and the soul becomes the battlefield of warring elements. This is what Peter means in 1 Peter 2:11: "Dearly beloved, I beseech you as strangers and pilgrims, abstain from fleshly lusts, which war against the soul...."

ABIDING IN CHRIST MEANS a day-by-day surrender to the will of God. It means putting Christ first in all of our deliberations. It means feeding on the Word of God and fellowship with Christ in prayer. Without this there is a breakdown in the spiritual substance, and sin enters and acts as a fifth column in the soul. An Old Testament Scripture aptly illustrates this thought.

In 2 Chronicles 12:9, 10 we read of Shishak, king of Egypt, coming up against Jerusalem and spoiling the king's house of its treasures. Solomon had built a magnificent temple and also a house in which to display his fabulous wealth. He made shields of gold to line the walls. Rehoboam, when a boy, undoubtedly walked through the Temple and the king's house and gazed in wonderment upon the fabulous display of wealth. In the days of Solomon, his father, God's presence inhabited the Temple, but Rehoboam forsook God and depended upon the representations of God's glory. When Shishak sacked Jerusalem, the golden shields were carried off. What did Rehoboam do? He could not bear to look upon the empty place where the golden shields once graced the walls, so he made for himself shields of brass. In other words he yielded to synthetics.

When a person ceases to abide in Christ, the golden shields of His divine presence are stolen by the devil and there is an aching void in the heart of the one spoiled. How many, like Rehoboam, make "shields of brass" to fill this empty place? How many still try to pray the same phrases that used to be laden with the power of God but now have their edges dulled? How many try "shields of brass" that make a clanging sound to replace the ringing shout of real Holy-Ghost victory?

Rehoboam's sin was stated in a few pungent words: "He did evil, because he prepared not his heart to seek the Lord."

Yielding to synthetics *after* being born again is even more serious than yielding to synthetics before having entered into the glorious experience of the "new birth."

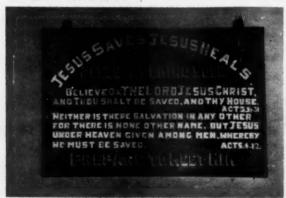
Christ is our life. Let us abide in Him so that "when Christ, who is our life, shall appear, then shall ye also appear with him in glory."

The jailer's house. Brother M. Benjamin, the Reverend H. L. Turner, the Reverend Wade H. Horton, Mrs. Wm. Pospisil. Note the words "Jesus Saves" in letters two feet high in concrete on either side of the entrance.

OR MORE THAN A YEAR I had heard about the head jailer of the Salem Central Prison, who was a Christian with an outstanding testimony for the Lord Jesus Christ. Finally, through a friend of ours who works in the India Sunday School Union Book Shop, we made plans to visit Salem, spend a few days with this man, and conduct some gospel meetings.

On April 18, 1956, H. L. Turner, C. V. Samuel, our pastor from the Coonoor Church, Mrs. Pospisil and I drove our car from Ootacamund to Salem. Mr. J. J. Sherrard, the converted jaller, had written that we would know his place because as we passed by in front of the house we would see the words JESUS SAVES in large letters. We arrived about six o'clock in the afternoon and were met by Brother Sherrard. He had been waiting and watching for us since about four o'clock, and was beginning to wonder if we would arrive in time for the evening meeting. Meetings had been arranged in the Eaton Memorial Church of which

This board and several other posters hung prominently on his veranda.



# WE MEET. A CONV

By William Pospisil

Stephen Raju, a splendid young Indian man is the pastor. It is a Holiness Church.

Mr. J. J. Sherrard holds a very responsible position. As chief jailer of this central prison that houses more than 1,000 prisoners, he has only one superior officer over him, that is the superintendent of the prison. Mr. Sherrard also fills this position whenever the superintendent is on leave.

The house in which Mr. Sherrard lives is Indian government property. Yet boldly he has set in concrete in letters about two feet high the words, JESUS SAVES. On his veranda he has several large signs and placards displaying that salvation is only through Jesus Christ, that Jesus heals, that Jesus is coming soon, etc. Important government officials visit the prison often, and of course, most of them are Hindus. He has prepared rubber stamps of verses such as John 3:16, Acts

The meeting arranged by the jailer at Eaton Memorial Church. Brother Turner on extreme left, Brother Horton and Brother Pospisil taking pictures.



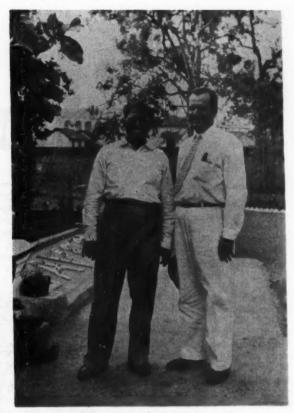
# NVERTED

# JAILER

4:12, John 14:6, and stamps these verses on all letters leaving his office. Here is one Christian in India who does not believe in putting his light under a bushel. There should be no mistake as to which side he is on. He has openly declared his faith in Jesus as the only Saviour. He is friendly toward the Pentecostal people, but has not received the baptism of the Holy Ghost. He is seeking the baptism of the Holy Ghost and desires an interest in your prayers that the Lord might indeed fill him with His Spirit. We do not have a Church of God in Salem.

I asked Mr. Sherrard about his conversion. He told me that he had an appointment in the Telugu field. He was worldly and had had no interest in the Christian religion. His life was like that of many persons who are not saved; he drank, played cards, frequented the show house, and if anything was even more rough than the average. However, his life gave him no real satisfaction. He met an old, retired Baptist minister who took an interest in him. He would talk with him about the things of God. Eventually, he became interested, and interest ripened into a real conversion. Then life began to mean something to him. He had received that for which his soul had longed. He felt that since this had met his need, it would also meet the needs of others. Therefore, he is trying to help others to find salvation and real satisfaction and purpose in life.

Mr. Sherrard has been able to lead many of the prisoners to Christ. I will mention only one instance. A man had been sentenced to death for murder. While confined in the prison awaiting his execution, he somehow managed to get a large stone and kill another man in the prison. He had committed murder outside the prison, and again inside the prison. Such a hardened criminal as he was, yet Brother Sherrard was able to lead him to Christ before his execution. The man gave his heart to Christ, and gave every evi-



Mr. J. J. Sherrard, the jailer, and Brother Wade H. Horton.

dence of a real change. Though he had to pay for his crimes with his life; yet, we believe the Lord had mercy upon him and saved his soul.

It was during the time we were having these meetings that Brother Wade H. Horton visited us here in India. On Thursday night a telegram was handed to me saying that Brother Horton would arrive by plane in Madras at ten o'clock in the morning of the next day. After the meeting, Brother Turner, Sister Pospisil and I drove through the night to Madras, arriving about four o'clock in the morning. Brother T. M. Varughese, our field secretary, had also arrived the night before from the Telugu field in the city. So we all were able to meet Brother Horton. We made some quick arrangements for meetings, and on Saturday and Sunday, Brother Horton was able to be with us in Salem. You can see Brother Horton and the converted jailer standing together in front of his home on the picture.

Pray for India that many more such nationals will be converted and will boldly witness for Jesus Christ. This gospel has never refused to go anywhere where people were willing to carry it. May the Lord help us to let our light shine.



#### Lady Healed After Pastor's Wife Prays

LYONS, Ga .- I thank and praise God for healing my body at the Georgia Prayer Conference in Savannah, Georgia. I am a widow and live with my widowed mother who is 81 years old and is blind. I had been in bad health for several years, but I went to the ministers' meeting in Atlanta and before returning home I came by way of Hazlehurst for a few days' visit with a daughter. I took seriously ill, and after getting better was brought home. I talked on the phone with a niece who is a nurse at Bath, South Carolina. She seemed to think that I had cancer and made arrangements with a physician in Augusta for an appointment. I decided if I did have cancer and was healed, my testimony would be more effective if a doctor had pronounced my ailment cancer.

I went to Augusta and was given a thorough examination. He did not seem to think I had cancer. but said I would have to have an operation. I was informed that I had a cupful of gallstones in my gall bladder and that they would not consider operating until I lost weight. They wanted me to lose a hundred pounds, and after losing weight, instead of one operation, I would have to have four major operations and two local ones. They found I had angina. My blood pressure was 208 and I was badly anemic. With the care of my home and my aged mother and the church I pastored, I grasped faith at once to believe God would give me strength to carry on, which He did. The thought would come to me sometimes that if God could give me strength to go on with my work with all these diseases preying on my body, and the faith to believe it, He could also give me faith to heal my body without an operation.

There was much praying done for me. People all over this state and in other states prayed for me. I continued to suffer and was getting weaker. I had lost 30 pounds when I went to the prayer conference. I told Sister G. R. Watson, the wife of the pastor of the Riverside Church of God in Atlanta, about my condition on Monday night of the prayer conference. She laid her hand on me and began to pray for me. She asked that the Lord grant that when I went back for a check-up that the doctor would find me in excellent condition.

Tuesday morning our dear Brother Johnson, Overseer of Georgia, was in charge of the Conference and asked a few to testify. That gave me a chance to testify and ask for prayer for the healing of my body, although I was much stronger after Sister Watson and Sister Kite had prayed for me the night before. Brother Johnson called for prayer for the sick and the wanted faith that I needed came into my soul. Two of the ministers after service came to me and told me God had revealed to them that I was healed. I went back to my doctor on Monday and after a check-up he seemed to be mystified at my condition. I told him of my healing and he said, "Mrs. Ross, I believe every word of that, for something has happened to you." He seemed to be as proud as I was over it, and the last words he said to me were; "You are in excellent condition." I feel the best that I've felt in several years, and I thank everyone who prayed for me.

—Mrs. Ella M. Ross, Pastor
Edmond Chapel Church

#### Child Instantly Healed of Tuberculosis of the Bone

DALTON, Ga,-I have been reading other testimonies of how God has healed and blessed and I should like to sound a note of praise. Twenty-five years ago I carried my baby to a doctor and he told me that she had tuberculosis of the bone. We had been to different doctors but they didn't know what was wrong with her, but X rays showed this doctor to be right. We carried her to the hospital in Atlanta, Georgia, which is a regular baby hospital. They told us the same thing. We carried her to the crippled children's hospital where she stayed for 25 weeks. They performed 2 operations. Two joints of her backbone were affected. The doctor said there was no cure for her. In July they put a cast over her body and she wore it for 13 months. She was then placed in a steel brace. She was not to go without her brace except at night. If we let her go without it she would get where she couldn't walk. At one time she had to be kept in bed one month. She had to wear the braces and cast for seven years. She was prayed for a number of times and God would bless every time. 1 John 5:15. "And if we know that he hear us, whatsoever we ask, we know that we have the petitions that we desired of him." Too, He said that in due season we would reap if we faint not. When she was 9 years old God instantly healed her. She has never worn a brace since. She is now married and the mother of three children. She attends the Mount Olive Church of God in Fruithurst, Alabama. Pray that she will be a bright and shining light for our great Healer, Jesus.

- Mrs. W. F. Gentry



#### Bennettsville Has "Greatest Revival"

BENNETTSVILLE, S. C. - We wish to sound a note of praise for the greatest revival in the history of this local church. We are praising God for the wonderful revival with Brother Robert Herrin as evangelist. He is a consecrated young man with the burden of lost souls on his heart. He preached under the anointing of the Holy Spirit each night. There were several definite healings, one which was outstanding. A lady who was in a critical condition and was going to have a serious operation which the doctors said would cost \$3,000, was prayed for; when the doctors X-rayed her they could not find anything wrong. Thirty-four were saved, 16 sanctified, 11 filled with the Holy Ghost, 4 united with the Church, and more are expected to unite as results of this revival. We closed the revival with the Lord's Supper and feet-washing. We certainly enjoyed the blessings of God in this revival. Anyone desiring the services of Brother Herrin certainly would not make a mistake in securing him for a -J. B. Merritt, Pastor revival.

## Twenty-eight Converted in Revival

NINETY SIX, S. C.—We thank God for a wonderful two-week revival conducted by Sister Mae Terry. In this mighty outpouring, saint and sinner alike were greatly blessed. Twenty-eight were saved, 16 sanctified, 16 filled with the Holy Ghost, 11 baptized in water, and 6 added to the Church. We are still feasting on the stirring messages rendered by Sister Terry. She

is truly a wonderful handmaiden of the Lord. We believe the church will continue to progress under the capable leadership of our pastor, Brother A. L. Hartgraves.

-Naomi Ouzts, Reporter

#### Ten Saved in Carson Springs Church

NEWPORT. Tenn.-We have just closed a good revival at the Carson Springs Church of God. Ten were saved, 3 sanctified, 6 united with the Church, for which we are praising God. During this revival a very unusual thing happened. An elderly lady walked in the light of the gospel and was sanctified and joined the Church. The ministers who preached in this revival were: Brother T. L. Phillips, of Alcoa; Brother J. S. Black, of Morristown: Brother Phillips, of Newport; Brother Floyd Timmerman, of Cleveland; and the pastor, Brother R. L. Sifford.

-R. L. Sifford, Pastor

#### Sunday School Attendance Increases Greatly

FAIRFIELD, Ill.-We have just closed an eight-week revival which has drawn the largest crowds of any revival ever before. There was more interest in this revival than ever before. Many were saved and blessed. Others received the Holy Ghost and many others were healed. We ran right through the Christmas and New Year seasons. Only three joined the Church, but several families have begun attending regularly and others are looking our way. Perhaps the Sunday School most accurately shows the advance in the church. The December average attendance was 36; January had an average attendance of 70, and we had 84 the first Sunday in February, Brother Billy Howell, of Centralia, Illinois, was the evangelist. He is a man blessed of God with faith for healing and a boldness for the truth, preaching fearlessly against sin and error. He caused many to begin searching the Scriptures for themselves with the result that many have found the truth of the gospel. While Brother Howell has a unique method in his preaching, his love for the souls of men is the oldfashioned kind and is evident in all his actions. I recommend him to any church as an earnest, prayerful and zealous man. The church is now in better condition. ready and able to work for God and lost souls, filled with new zeal and courage. -E. R. Adams, Pastor

#### Three Converted in Revival

MAYDAY, Ga.—We have just closed a wonderful revival with Sister Elizabeth Scott, from Moultrie, Georgia, as the evangelist. Our church was greatly blessed. Three were saved and 1 received the Holy Ghost. Several nights the Holy Ghost took full charge of the services, and God blessed in a marvelous way. Sister Scott really believes in doing her part of studying, fasting, and praying. God gave her wonderful anointing in every message. I am sure that she will be a blessing to any church.

-Lois Jones, Clerk

## Twenty Converted in Fayetteville

FAYETTEVILLE, N. C.—We are happy to report one of the greatest revivals we have ever had at the Lakedale Church of God. Our evangelist was Brother Lawrence Leonhardt. He is a good preacher and a wonderful singer. Brother Leonhardt sang with two members of our local trio and God so anointed their singing until there were few nights he got to preach. The Holy Ghost would come down in such a mighty way that hearts would be

stirred with conviction and the altar would fill with souls seeking blessings from God. Although the weather was bad the revival continued for three weeks and attendance grew each night. Brother Leonhardt had to leave after the Sunday morning service, but the revival fire is still burning. Sunday night our fine pastor, Brother Franklin, preached on "Christ in the Crisis," and our hearts were made to rejoice as we saw a man 84 years old give his heart to the Lord. Twenty were saved, 10 sanctified, 11 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 4 united with the Church. We thank God for our pastor, Brother C. H. Franklin, and his wife. We feel greatly favored by the Lord that He sent them to us. They have the interest of the church at heart and the burden for lost souls. The Lord is blessing and we are looking for great things for Lakedale.

-Church Reporter

### Twenty-one Converted in North Charleston

NORTH CHARLESTON, S. C.— For three weeks the Church of God at North Charleston had the privilege of having evangelist James Poe Jackson of Hixson, Tennessee, in a wonderful revival. Several were healed in this meeting. Twenty-one were saved, 10 sanctified, 6 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 3 added to the Church. Brother George W. Cooper is the good pastor.

-Nell Jackson, Reporter

#### Young Evangelist Conducts Good Revival

SPENCER, Tenn.—The Haston Chapel Church of God has just closed a three weeks' revival with Brother Chester West as the evangelist. The wonderful power of God anointed Brother West in every service in a wonderful way. He preached some of the most wonderful sermons we ever heard. He will be a real blessing to any church. Fifteen were saved, 11 sanctified, 8 filled with the Holy Ghost, 2 united

with the Church, and several more are to be added later. The Lord is really blessing at Hastons Chapel. We have paid for our new church, and Brother Joe Miller and son have sacrificed their beautiful home near the church and sold it to us for our parsonage. God is really blessing us. We thank the Lord for the fine work our pastor, Brother and Sister King, and the good people at Hastons Chapel are doing for the Lord.

-J. L. Brock, Reporter

#### Homerville Church Greatly Blessed

HOMERVILLE, Ga. — We have just closed a mighty revival with Brother James Kirkland and his wife as the evangelists. Our church was uplifted and many were brought closer to the Lord. Twelve were saved, 9 sanctified, 6 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 14 added to the Church. God blessed in a wonderful way. Brother and Sister Kirkland are devoted servants of Christ and are outstanding musicians. I recommend them to every church because they will prove a blessing. —J. B. Robinson, Pastor

#### Outstanding Healings in Morgantown

MORGANTOWN, Miss.-We have witnessed a great revival that has come our way. Words cannot express just how God worked in our midst. Dorothy and Winfred A. Petty, from Chattanooga, Tennessee, were the evangelists. We do appreciate them very much and the people learned to love them. Thirty-five were saved, 25 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 12 added to the Church. The revival flames are still burning. God healed during this revival and He blessed Sister Petty in praying for the sick. She prayed for one lady that was blind, and God gave her sight back. Several others were healed also. We are thankful to Him for visiting us as He did.

-J. E. Kennedy, Pastor

#### Eleven Converted in Kentucky Meeting

RUSSELL SPRINGS, Ky.—The Bernard Church of God has just closed a wonderful revival. Brother G. F. Crank of Lawton, Michigan, preached for us two weeks and Brother J. T. Holman, pastor of the Russell Springs church continued the meeting for another week. Eleven were saved, 2 sanctified, 1 was filled with the Holy Ghost. We are having our baptizing service Sunday, February 3. Pray that the Lord will continue to bless and will give us many more souls.

-W. E. Foster, Pastor

#### New Church Organized After Revival

HOUMA, La.—We have had a wonderful revival at Houma, Louisiana, with Brother E. R. Crane doing the preaching. Eight were saved, 5 sanctified, 3 filled with the Holy Ghost, and 7 baptized in water. Our good overseer, Brother V. D. Combs, set a church in order with 22 members. The name of the church will be Crane Chapel Church of God. During the revival we had the Lord's Supper and feet washing. The Lord really blessed.

—Reporter

# Lady Evangelist Conducts Outstanding Revival

JACKSONVILLE, Fla.—A great revival was conducted for four weeks in January by evangelist Sister Irene Hillhouse at the Springfield Church of God, where Brother M. M. Thomas is pastor. Twenty-five were saved, 25 sanctified, 18 filled with the Holy Ghost, 8 baptized in water, and 7 united with the Church. We thank the Lord for this wonderful revival, and the good evangelist. The revival spirit has not ceased, but continues on.

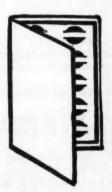
-Mrs. James R. Mack, Reporter



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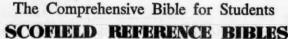
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#### REESE

The death angel called Sister Ethel Reese to be with the Lord on July 21, 1956. She was fortyseven years old. She was a charter member of the Church of God at Pelzer, South Carolina. She was a precious saint of God. To know her was to love her. Sister Reese lived a life of sacrifice for the church, her home, family, and friends. Her motto must have been "Living for Others." and that is what she did. We mourn not as those having no hope; we feel our loss is heaven's gain. She is survived by her husband. Horace Reese. one daughter, one grandson, and a host of friends. Her funeral was conducted at the Church of God in Pelzer by her pastor, the Reverend T. W. Day, assisted by her former pastor, the Reverend J. R. Mullinax, and the Reverend A. C. Legg. a Methodist minister, and a friend of the family.-Myrtle Whitehead

#### DE ABREU

Paul Alvarez De Abreu, licensed minister in the Church of God, died September 21, 1956. His home was in Brazil, South America.

—Vessie D. Hargrave Superintendent Latin America

#### WORSTELL

Almost a year has passed since the Lord called our Brother William Worstell of Marietta, Ohio, away from his family and his church where he labored so long and faithfully. He was born on August 23, 1896, in Washington County, Ohio. He was the son of Charles and Elizabeth Worstell. He was married to the former Miss Bertha Hendricks, who resides at the family home. He is also survived by two sons and two daughters. Two sons and one daughter preceded him in death. Brother Worstell was a loyal member of the Church of God and had served the Marietta church as clerk and Sunday School superintendent for the past twenty years. He was also conducting a branch Sunday School in another town at the time of his death. I sat in the congregation of the Marietta church not long ago, and as the present superintendent performed his duties, another seemed to stand beside him, although hidden from human eyes. The very presence of the man who for so many years occupied this position, still hovers near. Many were the testimonies I heard of the labors of this good man. It was my privilege to have known him personally many years. and I am confident that when the redeemed of all ages gather around the throne, Brother William Worstell will be in the number, crowned and rewarded for his faithfulness in this world.

-Maymie West, Evangelist

#### MELVIN

The Reverend Robert Louis (Bob) Melvin, born October 5, 1932, at West Frankfort, Illinois, was suddenly called from this life along with his son Kevin, age 4, in an automobile accident on January 7, 1957, at the age of 24. He is survived by his wife, Mary Kate Melvin; his father and mother, Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Melvin; four sisters; four brothers; grandmother; many other relatives; and a host of friends. Brother Melvin was converted in 1944. He united with the Church of God at Logan, Illinois,

and he began his ministry in 1952. Since that time he has done evangelistic and pastoral work in the Church. Brother Bob endeared himself to both the laity and ministry of the Church throughout Illinois. He was pastoring the Church of God at McClellan township at the time of his death. God was graciously blessing his labor, and the progress being made was very gratifying. The report of the people is that they do not know who could take his place. Though his life here was rather short, he lived a rich, full life, because he lived it right. Funeral services were held at the West Frankfort Church of God. The Reverend F. W. Goff, Overseer, the Reverend R. D. Harris, State Youth Director, and the Reverend G. L. Stilwell, local pastor, officiated -Reporter

#### ELAM

Brother J. R. Elam departed this life to be with Jesus on February 1, 1957, at the age of 65 years. He was a faithful and loyal member of the Berea Church of God. He served as clerk and treasurer for a number of years. He leaves his wife and seven children and a host of friends to mourn his passing. Brother Elam was loved by all who knew him. He now rests from his labors. We feel our loss is heaven's gain. The funeral was conducted by his pastor, the Reverend John Newton.

-Mrs. Mavis Newton, Reporter

#### CONNER

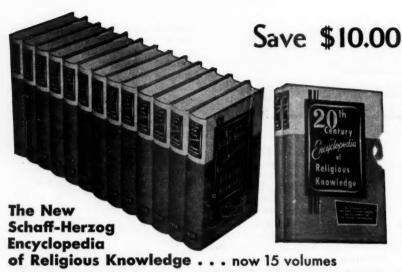
J. B. Conner, ordained minister in the Church of God, passed away January 19, 1957. His home was in Jesup, Georgia.

—W. E. Johnson Overseer of Georgia

#### PORTER

A. J. Porter, of Statenville, Georgia, died January 21, 1957. He was an ordained minister in the Church of God.

—W. E. Johnson Overseer of Georgia



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